

President Defends Appointment of Jones in Withdrawing Name

The following American Press dispatches give the details of the withdrawal of the name of Thomas D. Jones, of Chicago, for appointment on the federal reserve board, by President Wilson:

WASHINGTON, July 23.—Sudden withdrawal by President Wilson of his nomination of Thomas D. Jones of Chicago to be a member of the federal reserve board today ended the bitter controversy over his confirmation in the senate. Letters that passed between the president and Mr. Jones accompanied the executive message and showed that the Chicago lawyer requested the action and that the president complied with some regret that the fight could not be carried on through to a finish.

Senator Reed of Missouri, one of the democrats who has opposed the Jones appointment, had just finished a diatribe against the International Harvester company, of which the nominee is a director, and of those responsible for its organization and operation, when the withdrawal shut off further debate.

"The time has come when discriminations against any particular classes of men should be laid aside and discarded as unworthy of the councils of a great people," said the president in his letter to Mr. Jones. "Partisan prejudice" and "class antagonism" were described, and a militant tone pervaded the entire epistle.

Basis of the Opposition.

Opposition to the nomination has been based on the ground that the harvester company is under indictment as a trust, and the senate banking committee had submitted a majority report adverse to confirmation, signed by all the republicans and two democratic members.

Mr. Jones wrote that this report was "based on a distortion of facts and perversion of the truth," but expressed the opinion that as a result of the contest even if the nomination were confirmed by the senate his usefulness as a member of the reserve board would be seriously impaired.

The senate contest over the Jones case, which threatened partial obliteration of party lines and a free-for-all struggle, was at its height when the president determined to abandon his effort to force the nomination through. The opposition to Mr. Jones led by Senators Hitchcock of Nebraska and Reed of Missouri, the democrats who, with a republican minority, signed the committee's adverse report, was planning a lengthy parliamentary struggle.

Feeling in Senate High.

The administration adherents were hard at work seeking support for the nomination. Feeling in the senate ran high. In this situation Senator Reed today took the floor. For several hours he attacked the harvester company and reviewed President Wilson's position against monopoly, as expressed in the president's writings, his expressions as to the "personal guilt of officials of offending corporations" and democratic platform declarations on the same subject.

Through the history of the harvester company, from its organization in 1902, the senator swept with a whirlwind of invective and sarcasm, reciting from the arguments in the government's suit against the concern and the records of congressional investigation.

"This pirate ship, whose keel was laid down by Morgan and Perkins in 1902," Senator Reed said, "is sailing the same sea today, manned by the same crew, except for an occasional

dummy director to fill a vacancy, and those who tread her decks today are just as deserving of punishment as those who launched her on her buccaneering cruise."

While Senator Reed was speaking, a rumor reached the capital that the president had already determined to withdraw the Jones nomination, and a short time later Secretary Tumulty and Assistant Secretary Latta reached the capitol. Mr. Tumulty went directly to the president's room off the senate lobby and sent a message for Senator Hollis and Senator Pomerene, who, with Senators Lee of Maryland, and Shafroth, have been most active in urging the confirmation of Mr. Jones.

Five minutes later Senator Pomerene had filed the report of the minority democrats on the banking committee recommending Mr. Jones' confirmation. The president's secretary had not long been in conference with the senators from Ohio and New Hampshire, but the purpose of his mission was whispered about the senate lobby.

Senator Hitchcock, one of the first

to hear the news, remarked, "Glory, hallelujah." Then he returned quickly to the chamber and as Senator Reed paused to look up a reference in his speech, handed this note to the Missourian: "President has just withdrawn Jones. Tumulty outside now with message."

Senator Reed was visibly affected for a second, but cleared his throat and proceeded with his attack as though nothing had happened.

In executive session, a few moments later the formal announcement of the withdrawal was received without comment. Senator Hitchcock, in speaking of the effect of the message, said:

"The message certainly lifted a load from a great many democrats. It was a great relief to some who already knew how they were going to vote and a great relief also to some who were still uncertain. I am sure it is a good thing for democracy."

Say Jones Is Without Blame

The report of the minority democrats on the banking and currency committee held that alleged misdeeds of the harvester company had been committed before Mr. Jones became a director and there was nothing in the records of any directors' meetings attended by Mr. Jones to show a violation of any law, state or federal,

"unless it be the mere fact that the corporation continued to exist and do business."

The minority also took exception to the report of the majority condemning the New Jersey Zinc company, with which Mr. Jones is connected, asserting that the company never had been arraigned or complained of for the violation of any law, and that its business dealings were clean and fair.

President Wilson is said to have been willing to press Jones' nomination until today, when he concluded that the anti-trust program might be endangered if the fight in the senate was continued.

Jones' Letter to President.

Mr. Jones letter, made public at the white house, is as follows:

"CHICAGO, July 20, 1914. — My Dear President: I have reached definite conviction that it is my duty to ask you to withdraw my nomination as a member of the federal reserve board. You are aware that I was in no sense whatever an applicant for the office. It was with the greatest reluctance that I agreed to accept the honor and heavy burdens of that office in case my nomination were sent to the senate and confirmed by it. I did not then anticipate a protracted and bitter contest. At the



THE SQUEALERS

—From the Harrisburg (Pa.) Patriot